

Dynamic memory allocation

Automatic allocation

When you declare variables or when you use strings within double quotes, the program takes care of all the memory allocation. You do not have to think about it.

Dynamic allocation

So far we have used variables, arrays with fixed size. But what happens if you do not know the size of the array you have to declare and / or if this size depends on another variable?

There are built-in functions that allow us to declare variables dynamically

- malloc()
- Malloc is a generic pointer so it should be typecasted

```
malloc
#include <stdlib.h>
void *malloc(size_t size);
The malloc() function allocates size bytes and returns a pointer to the
allocated
memory
The memory is not initialized
```

How to use valgrind to check for memory leak

- ❖ Valgrind is a tool that helps you detect memory leaks and other memory-related errors in your C or C++ programs
- ❖ valgrind --leak-check=full ./your_program [arguments]